

McMASTER UNIVERSITY

**DEATH, DISEASE AND DEGENERATION:
A HISTORY OF HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE IN
CANADA**

3Y03

**Syllabus, Readings &
Dates of Lectures and Tutorials**

Instructor: Dr. D. Wright

January-April 2004

McMASTER UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

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**DEATH, DISEASE AND DEGENERATION:
A HISTORY OF HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE IN CANADA**

Syllabus 2003-4

Instructor: Dr D Wright

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I. COURSE DESCRIPTION & GOALS

This course explores the history of health and health care in Canada, from the first European settlements to the present day. Topics will include: Aboriginal and European conceptions of health and illness; the impact of western infectious diseases on First Nations' society; the health implications of rapid industrialisation in the nineteenth century; the role of the State in sanitary reform and public health; the emergence of the medical and nursing professions; the Canadian eugenics movement; and the origins and development of universal health care in the twentieth century. Cross-cutting themes – such as race, class, and gender -- will feature prominently in the small group discussions.

By the end of the course students will: (1) understand key issues in the history of health and health care; (2) critically examine the historiography of the emergence of health care professions; and (3) appreciate the complex interaction between health and social change. Students will also be introduced to a range of critical researching and writing skills, as well as gain experience discussing and presenting material in front of their peers.

The course is intended for undergraduate students enrolled in programs in the Faculty of Health Sciences, the Faculty of Humanities, and the Faculty of Social Sciences. By its very composition, then, the discussions and approach will have a strong interdisciplinary flavour. No prior knowledge of health sciences, of Canadian history, or of the history of medicine is assumed.

II. LARGE GROUP SESSIONS (LECTURES) & SMALL GROUP SESSIONS (TUTORIALS)

Large group sessions (lectures) will be held on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays (see schedule of classes). Attendance is optional, but strongly recommended. Lectures will cover, in a chronological manner, important topics in the history of health and health care in Canada. These topics are listed below (See APPENDIX A). In addition, students will be obliged to assign themselves to a 'tutorial group' that will meet ten times during the term. These small group sessions (tutorials) will explore cross-cutting themes. Participation in the tutorials is obligatory and will count towards a student's overall mark. Tutorial times will be allocated at the beginning of the term.

III. WRITTEN WORK

Students will be required to submit one research paper from a list of topics distributed by the course instructor during Week 3 tutorials. This research paper will consist of 8-10 pages and will be referenced according to a Humanities referencing system (to be explained in the special Essay workshops). All papers will be marked by a senior teaching assistant or the Professor and will form part of the overall grade. Papers are due on Tuesday March 30 (please see VII: Guidelines for Late Papers).

IV. EVALUATION

Seminar Participation	10%
Mid-Term	25%
Paper	25%
Final	40%
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	100%

V. READINGS

Weekly (assigned) readings are included in the Courseware booklet, available from the Auxiliary Bookstore. See Appendix A for the tentative lecture schedule. Please note that these dates are subject to change.

VI. ACADEMIC ETHICS

Students should be aware of the Statement on Academic Ethics included in the Senate Policy Statements booklet given to all McMaster students. Plagiarism and submission of work that is not one's own, or for which previous credit has been obtained, are examples of academic dishonesty.

VII: GUIDELINES FOR LATE PAPERS

All papers are expected on or before the due date. A penalty of 2% per day (off of the assigned mark) will be deducted from late papers. No paper will be accepted after the last day of class. No penalty will be deducted from papers delayed due to illness, provided that a medical/physician's note (or equivalent from Student Health Services or the Centre for Student Development) is submitted to the course instructor.

Late papers should be deposited in the HISTORY drop off box outside of CNH 619. Please ensure that the course title, instructors' name, and your name are clearly indicated on the cover sheet. All papers are time stamped by the Administrative Assistants of the Department of History.

VIII: FURTHER STUDIES & STUDENT EMPLOYMENT IN THE HISTORY OF HEALTH & MEDICINE

There are numerous opportunities for further studies and paid student employment in the history of health and medicine.

First, Associated Medical Services of Toronto, through their Hannah Institute for the History of Medicine, supports paid summer studentships (for undergraduate students) and Master's studentships (for those applying for an MA in History). Please see <http://www.ams-inc.on.ca/> for further details.

Second, there are opportunities for two or three undergraduate students to secure part-time employment as paid teaching assistants for (future editions of) 3Y03. Please ask the Instructor near the end of the term for further information.

Finally, there are research projects located at the History of Health and Medicine Unit that occasionally require summer student research assistants. Again, please ask the Instructor for further information.

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PART 1:

REQUIRED READINGS FOR LARGE GROUP SESSIONS (LECTURES) (see second half of Courseware for Small Group Sessions (Tutorials))

(Week 1)

Jacques Bernier, *Disease, Medicine and Society in Canada: A Historical Overview* (Ottawa: Canadian Historical Association, 2003) 2-35.

James Waldrum, D. Ann Herring and T. Kue Young, *Aboriginal Health in Canada: Historical, Cultural, and Epidemiological Perspectives* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1995), chapter 3: Contact with Europeans and infectious diseases, 43-64.

(Week 2)

Peter Twohig, "Colonial Care: Medical Attendance among the Mi'kmaq in Nova Scotia," *Canadian Bulletin of Medical History (CBMH/BCHM)*, 13 (1996), 333-53.

Toby Gelfand, "Who Practiced Medicine in New France?: A Collective Portrait," in Charles Roland, ed., *Health, Disease, and Medicine: Essays in Canadian History* (Toronto: Clark Irwin/Hannah Institute for the History of Medicine, 1984), 16-35.

(Week 3)

Allan Everett Marble, *Surgeons, Smallpox, and the Poor: A History of Medicine and Social Conditions in Nova Scotia, 1749-1799*. (Montreal & Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1993) 145-189.

Terrie Romano, "Professional Identity and the Nineteenth-Century Ontario Medical Profession," *Social History/Histoire Sociale*, 28 (1995), 77-98.

(Week 4)

David Coburn, "Professionalization and Proletarianization: Medicine, Nursing, and Chiropractic in Historical Perspective," *Labour/Le Travail*, 34 (1994), 139-62.

Geoffrey Bilson, "Canadian Doctors and the Cholera," in S.E.D. Shortt, ed., *Medicine in Canadian Society* (Montreal & Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1981), 115-36.

(Week 5)

Bruce Curtis, "Social Investment in Medical Forms: The 1866 Cholera Scare and Beyond," *Canadian Historical Review*, 81 (2000), 347-79.

Colleen MacNaughton, "Promoting Clean Water in Nineteenth-Century Public Policy: Professors, Preachers and Polliwogs in Kingston, Ontario," *SH/HS*, 32 (1999), 49-62.

Charles Roland, "The Early Years of Antiseptic Surgery in Canada," in S.E.D. Shortt, ed., *Medicine in Canadian Society* (Montreal & Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1981), 237-53.

[Mid-Term week]

(Week 7)

Angus McLaren, "Birth Control and Abortion in Canada, 1870-1920," in S.E.D. Shortt, ed., *Medicine in Canadian Society* (Montreal & Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1981), 285-313.

Wendy Mitchinson, *Giving Birth in Canada, 1900-1950*. (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2002), chapter 3: "Midwives did not disappear," 69-103.

Laurie Meijer Drees, "Reserve Hospital and Medical Officers: Health Care and Indian Peoples in Southern Alberta, 1890s-1930," *Prairie Forum*, 21 (1996), 149-76.

(Week 8)

Gerald E. Thomson, "'A Baby Show means Work in the Hardest Sense': The Better Baby Contests of the Vancouver and New Westminster Local Council of Women, 1913-1929," *BC Studies* 128 (2000/2001), 5-36.

Michael Marrus, "The Nuremberg Doctors' Trial in Historical Context," *Bulletin for the History of Medicine*, 73 (1999), 106-23.

(Week 9) *The Rise of Scientific Medicine and the Transformation of the Hospital*

David Gagan, "'For Patients of Moderate Means': The Transformation of Ontario's Public General Hospitals, 1880-1950," *Canadian Historical Review*, 70 (1989), 151-79.

Mark Cortiula, "House of Healers: The Changing Nature of General Hospital Architecture in Hamilton, 1850-1914," *Social History/Histoire Sociale (SH/HS)*, 18 (1995), 27-50.

Esyllt W. Jones, "Contact Across a Diseased Boundary: Urban space and social interaction during Winnipeg's Influenza Epidemic, 1918-1919," *Journal of the Canadian Historical Association*, 13 (2002), 119-139.

(Week 10)

Robert Bothwell and John English, “Pragmatic Physicians: Canadian Medicine and Health Care Insurance, 1910-1945,” in S.E.D. Shortt, ed., *Medicine in Canadian Society* (Montreal & Kingston: McGill-Queen’s University Press, 1981), 479-93.

(Week 11)

Jordan Goodman, “Pharmaceutical Industry,” in Roger Cooter and John Pickstone, eds., *Medicine in the Twentieth Century* (Abingdon, 2000), 141-54.

Shelley McKellar, *Surgical Limits: The Life of Gordon Murray* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2003) chapter 3: Delivering Miracles: Heart Surgery and an Artificial Kidney Machine, 52-75.

Roger Cooter, “The Disabled Body,” in Roger Cooter and John Pickstone, eds., *Medicine in the Twentieth Century* (Abingdon, 2000), 367-83.

(Week 12)

Eugene Vayda and Raisa Deber, “The Canadian Health Care System: A Developmental Overview,” in C. David Naylor, ed., *Canadian Health Care and the State: A Century of Evolution*, 193-237.

Roy J. Romanow, *Building on Values: The Future of Health Care in Canada* (Ottawa, 2002), chapter 6: Improving Access, Ensuring Quality, 137-157.

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PART 2:

REQUIRED READINGS FOR SMALL GROUP SESSIONS/TUTORIALS

Tutorial A: Aboriginal Health

Mary-Ellen Kelm, *Colonizing Bodies: Aboriginal Health and Healing in British Columbia, 1900-1950* (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2001), chapter 5: “Aboriginal Conceptions of the Body, Disease and Medicine,” 83-99.

Tutorial B: Alternative Medicine

Barbara Clow, “ ‘Swapping Grief: The Role of the Laity in Alternative Medical Encounters,” *Journal of the History of Medicine*, 52 (1997), 175-201.

Tutorial C: Gender, Race, and Health

Karen Flynn, “Race, the State, and Caribbean Immigrant Nurses, 1950-1962”, in Georgina Feldberg, Molly Lard-Taylor, Alison Li and Kathryn McPherson (eds.) *Women, Health, and Nation: Canada and the United States since 1945* (Montreal-Kingston: McGill-Queen’s University Press, 2003).

Tutorial D: Class and Health

Robin Badgley and Samuel Wolfe, “Equity and Health Care,” in C. David Naylor, ed., *Canadian Health Care and the State: A Century of Evolution*, 193-237.

Tutorial E: Perfecting the Human Race

Alex Faulkner, “Modern Miracles: The Development of Cosmetic Prosthetics,” in Katherine Ott, David Serlin, and Stephen Mihm, eds., *Artificial Parts, Practical Lives: Modern Histories of Prosthetics* (New York: New York University Press, 2002).

Tutorial F: Drugs and the State

Jarrett Rudy, “Unmaking Manly Smokes: Church, State, Governance, and the First Anti-Smoking Campaigns in Montreal, 1892-1914,” *Journal of the Canadian Historical Association* 12 (2001), 95-114.

Tutorial G: The Future of Health Care

Roy J. Romanow, *Building on Values: The Future of Health Care in Canada* (Ottawa, 2002), chapter 11: Health Care and Globalization, 233-246.

APPENDIX A: Select Bibliography of the History of Health and Medicine in Canada

There is no standard textbook survey of the history of health and medicine in Canada. A courseware pack has thus been constructed to cover, in a chronological manner, the main themes for the course.

For specialized research articles in the history of health and medicine, students should consult medical history periodicals, including: *Canadian Bulletin for the History of Medicine*, *Social History of Medicine*, *Medical History*, *Bulletin for the History of Medicine*, and *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences*. All are located in the 'History of Medicine' section of the Faculty of Health Sciences library. Articles on the history of health can also be found in Mills periodicals, such as *Social History/Histoire Sociale*, *Canadian Historical Review*, *Journal of Canadian Studies*, *Ontario History*, *Acadiensis*, *BC Studies*. These journals can be found in Mills library.

For a comprehensive bibliography (to the date of publication) of Secondary Sources on the history of health and medicine, see:

Charles G. Roland, *Secondary Sources in the History of Canadian Medicine: A Bibliography* (Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 1984).

Charles G. Roland and Jacques Bernier, *Secondary Sources in the History of Canadian Medicine: A Bibliography*, vol. 2 (Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 2000).

There are five principal edited volumes of essays on the history of health and medicine in Canada. They are all on reserve at the following locations:

[on order] Georgina Feldberg, Molly Lard-Taylor, Alison Li and Kathryn McPherson (eds.) *Women, Health, and Nation: Canada and the United States since 1945* (Montreal-Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2003).

(Mills) Peter Keating and Othmar Keel (eds.), *Santé et Société au Québec, XIX^e-XX^e siècle* (Québec, 1995).

(Mills) Wendy Mitchinson and Janice Dickin McGinnis (eds.), *Essays in the History of Canadian Medicine* (Toronto, McClelland and Stewart, 1988).

(Health Sciences) David C. Naylor (ed.), *Canadian Health Care and the State: A Century of Evolution* (Montreal and Kingston, McGill-Queen's University Press, 1992).

(Health Sciences) Charles Roland (ed.), *Health, Disease and Medicine: Essays in Canadian History* (Toronto, Clarke Irwin/Hannah Institute, 1982).

(Mills) S.E.D. Shortt (ed.), *Medicine in Canadian Society: Historical Perspectives* (Montreal and Kingston, 1981).

For those students who have no recent background in (general) Canadian history and who want to refresh their memories, please consult the readings for the Canadian history survey HIST 2T03 (Survey of Canadian History, Beginnings to 1885) and HIST 2T13 (Survey of Canadian History, 1885 to Present). For those unfamiliar with medical or health terminology, please consult or purchase a paperback medical dictionary or encyclopedia, such as the *Penguin Medical Encyclopedia*.